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## GENERAL

1. West European views on possible USSR attack on Yugoslavia--  
 US Embassy London reports that at the concluding discussion of the NATO deputies on the Yugoslav situation, the British withdrew their estimate that a Satellite attack on Yugoslavia is unlikely until after the 1951 training season. The British now think an attack might well come sooner, and the French share this view. However, the Netherlands deputy expressed the view that because the Satellite forces are "unreliable" (especially the Hungarian), an attack is unlikely until the Soviet Union is prepared to commit its own forces.

Meanwhile, US Embassy The Hague transmits the view held by one of Queen Juliana's chief advisers that the opinion is gradually gaining ground among Western European "career circles" that the Soviet leaders are greatly concerned over the growing national deviation tendency in the Western European Communist parties and the progress of NATO. This view holds, therefore, that the Soviet Union is secretly passing over to the defensive in Europe, even though outwardly maintaining the offensive, and consequently a direct attack against the West is extremely unlikely within the foreseeable future, though the possibility of a Satellite attack against Yugoslavia is not excluded.

## EUROPE

State Dept. review completed

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3. USSR: Soviet doubts concerning four-power conference--  
US Embassy Moscow has learned that Austrian Minister Bischoff saw Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Zorin on 3 February and discussed with him the Austrian Government's desire for early conclusion of a peace treaty. Zorin said his government was willing to reach agreement but was skeptical of the attitude of the Western Powers. Bischoff suggested that the treaty could appropriately be on the agenda for a Conference of Foreign Ministers; Zorin assented but seemed doubtful whether such a conference would take place. The Austrian Minister has the impression the Soviet Union is pessimistic about a conference.

The Embassy has also learned that Bischoff was called to the Foreign Office on 8 February to see Zorin (Zorin was rumored to be in Czechoslovakia at this time). Bischoff suggests this meeting was designed to indicate the physical presence of Zorin in Moscow on that date.

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